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5 APR 1984

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Dear

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This is in reply to your letter of 25 January 1984 in which you requested, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), copies of records involving CIA testimony presented in executive session of the House Foreign Affairs Committee concerning the assessment of the Soviet role and challenge in Asia. We received your letter on 7 February 1984.

We have accepted your request and will begin our search for responsive documents in existence as of and through the date of this acceptance letter with the understanding that there are categories of congressionally mandated documents which may not fall under the category of executive agency material.

We will waive fees in this instance.

The heavy volume of some 3200 information requests such as yours currently being handled by the Agency has created processing backlogs. Also, we process all requests on a first-in, first-out basis. Since we will not be able to respond within the 10 working days stipulated by the Freedom of Information Act, it is your right to construe this as a denial, subject to appeal to the CIA Information Review Committee. It would seem more reasonable, however, for us to continue processing your request and respond as soon as feasible. Unless we hear from you otherwise, we will assume this is agreeable to you and proceed on this basis.

Sincerely,

/s/ Larry R. Strawderman

Larry R. Strawderman  
Information and Privacy Coordinator

**7 FEB 1984**

[Redacted]

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Dear

[Redacted]

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This is to acknowledge receipt of your 25 January 1984  
Freedom of Information Act request to this Agency.

We will be in touch with you concerning your request in the  
near future. In the meantime, your patience and understanding  
will be appreciated.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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JAN 30 11 37 AM '84

INSTITUTE FOR POLICY STUDIES  
1901 Q Street NW  
Washington, DC 20009  
(202) 234-9382

January 25, 1984

Central Intelligence Agency  
Information and Privacy Coordinator  
Washington, DC 20505

IPD Registry

Dear sir or madam:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act  
(5 U.S.C. 552).

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In a hearing of the Subcommittees on Europe and the Middle East and on Asian and Pacific Affairs of the House Foreign Affairs Committee, Mr. Solarz, Chairman of the latter subcommittee, said "Our subcommittee has already had one executive session during which we heard testimony from the intelligence community concerning their assessment of the Soviet role and challenge in Asia." (Hearings, "The Soviet Role in Asia," 98th Congress, First Session, page 2 [July 19, 1983].)

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A staff member of that subcommittee informed me that this consisted of testimony from officials of DIA, CIA and the State Department. I request all records you have that were presented to the subcommittee in this executive session and all internal notes, memoranda and other information pertaining to the presentation including answers to questions submitted to the record after the hearing.

I understand that some of the information your agency presented to the subcommittee would be classified "Top Secret," "Secret," or "Confidential," i.e. information whose disclosure could, at a minimum, "reasonably... be expected to cause damage to the national security" (Executive Order 12356-- National Security Information, section 1.1 (a)). But the Executive Order cited (section 3.4 (a)) requires you to review the records I request for declassification.

Moreover, the Freedom of Information Act (b) requires you to provide "Any reasonably segregable portion of a record... after deletion of the portions which are exempt."

I request you: (1) release to me those records I requested that are not classified either "Top Secret," "Secret," or "Confidential" (and Executive Order 12356, section 1.1 (a), prohibits use of any other terms to identify classified

information); (2) review all portions of records that are classified to determine whether they could "reasonably ... be expected to cause damage [or worse] to the national security" of the United States, and declassify and release to me all of the records except classified ones which you determine could cause damage to the national security; and (3) that you release to me all of the reasonably segregable portions of classified records except those portions which are properly classified.

I understand that under the FOIA you will inform me of any fees before you fill the request. The Act permits you to waive those fees when the release of information is considered as "primarily benefiting the general public" (section (a)(4)(A)). I believe this request clearly fits that category.

The Institute for Policy Studies is a non-profit, tax-exempt public policy research and education organization that has sponsored research and publications for twenty years. Its efforts aim at in-depth policy analysis and public education to promote more informed public debate.

The Institute's research activities fall under the provisions of the DOD Freedom of Information Act Program guidance (DOD 5400.7-R, page VI-2, paragraph 6-101c5) as our work addresses "issues of wide public interest" and the information we seek "can be considered as primarily benefiting the general public." The documents requested from you will foster that effort by illuminating parts of current national security policy and its future implications.

I appreciate your help in obtaining this information. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at the number listed above. I look forward to hearing from you within ten working days, as the law stipulates.

Sincerely,



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